

DEDICATION OF THE VINE STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

MAGNIFICENT NEW EDIFICE IS OPENED

Its Portals Are Thronged With Crowds Of Admiring People

When Beauties And Splendors Of Building Are Unfolded To Eye

Rev. George L. Snively A Commanding Figure

His Oratory Stirring Souls Of Immense Congregations

The Dedicatory Services In The Evening Acme Of Impressiveness

With all indebtedness wiped out by self-sacrificing and generous subscriptions, the beautiful new Church of Christ was formally dedicated Sunday in the presence of three monster congregations which assembled from all parts of Knox and adjoining counties to join in the services of the day and offer their devotions and thanks to God for the splendid new house of worship in this community. Joyous people, their dream of years



Rev. J. A. Long, Beloved Pastor Of The Vine Street Church Of Christ

a solid truth, gathered for the occasion and the happiness and exuberance of their feelings was imaged in the sparkling eye, the smile, the weathered face and the alert step of those who have toiled so hard and so unceasingly for this monument to religious Mt. Vernon and the local Church of Christ. And the happiest of all were the pastor, Rev. J. A. Long, and his conservative, but energetic, building committee. These good folks were radiant over a work successfully completed and dedicated without a debt of even a penny.

The central figure in the dedicatory proceedings of the day and one who will continue to command the attention and esteem of the parishioners of the Church of Christ in view of the revival services which start this week under his direction was Rev. George L. Snively of Lewiston, Ill., who undertook the tremendous task of raising \$25,000 in a single day and carried it through to a successful termination.

Rev. Snively's marvelous powers of expression, of exciting human emotion, of rousing his congregation from an earthly to a more sublime plane of thought were no less remarkable than his ability to impress members of the Church of Christ with the monetary responsibility they should assume as individuals in placing their new edifice in an independent condition financially at the very outset.

His strong exhortations for personal sacrifice, coupled with his stirring manner of address, more than fur-

nished a stimulus for the congregation which subscribed with an unbounded generosity to the fund which left the new structure unencumbered in the matter of indebtedness. Hence the final dedicatory services, formal in character and impressive in ceremony, came with a truly delicious sweetness to all who sat in the audience and partook of their beauties.

With the most ideal weather yet granted this spring, the doors of the new house of God were thrown open early Sunday morning to the large crowd which collected long before the time arrived for the initial services. There were scores of people from out of town—many coming forty or fifty miles, while some few assembled from even more distant places—who joined with members of church in the city in offering up their praises at the services. All sections of the county were represented, while in the afternoon there was a large attendance of members of other churches.

Before the regular morning service started, Rev. Snively addressed the children of the church, delivering for them his famous, chemically illustrated lecture. In this he showed, by use of acids and alkalis, how the soul is purified by God, no matter how contaminated it may have previously been by the insidious influence of earthly sin. Although the address was intended primarily for the younger people, his remarks bore fruit with the members of the congregation who had gathered early and who appreciated the lecture to the utmost.

Rev. Snively's address at the regular morning service was on the subject, "Fundamentals of the Faith." These he described as a belief in the imminence of God, the divinity of Jesus Christ, the sovereignty of the Holy Spirit, the divine inspiration of the Scriptures and immortality.

He told of Benjamin Franklin's argumentative victory over a famous philosopher of the day who was a religious skeptic by a practical, scientific demonstration. Coincidentally, he narrated the struggles of scientists to evolve life from protoplasmic matter and of their utter and complete failures. Urging divine faith and Christianity in every-day life, he referred to a personal experience in which he was assured that he did not have cancer only when three physicians and surgeons had been consulted. These convinced him only after a blood-test was made. The sin of covetousness is man's worst enemy, the speaker averred, and the test lies in his willingness to sacrifice personal pleasures and donate a tenth of his store to God.

At this juncture a large board, marked off in blocks which were labelled with amounts from \$5,000 down to \$100, was placed on the rostrum. Rev. Snively proceeded to urge families in the congregation to take blocks. He said that a picture of the board when fully subscribed would be taken and placed in the church. The Ladies' Aid society of the church responded first with a subscription of \$5,000. Numerous families took \$500 blocks, so that by noon \$20,025 had been subscribed.

Rev. Snively renewed his efforts in the afternoon, following communion service, and succeeded in raising over \$1,500 in subscriptions. Memorial services were next in order. Various members of the congregation arose and paid tribute to those of the church who had departed this life. Probably the most interesting of the speakers was Mrs. Matthews who attended the seminary of Robert Sloan, founder of the local church, and who related several anecdotes concerning Mr. Sloan.

The final and dedicatory service of the day saw the realization of Rev. Snively's efforts to make the church free of indebtedness. Over \$1,000 was

raised in subscriptions and, with a balance of \$2,500 yet to obtain, the building committee offered the assurance that this amount would be subscribed so that, after Rev. Snively's sermon on "Immortality," it was with real pleasure that the services started.

Dr. Joseph Wenger, in a few short remarks as chairman of the building committee, presented to C. G. Weaver, chairman of the board of trustees, the keys of the building. These were accepted by Chairman Weaver in an appropriate speech. The solemn dedicatory vows were then taken by the congregation. Rev. J. A. Long repeated the first section, the congregation, led by the trustees, the second and so on. A benediction by Rev. Long, teeming with prayers for the future success of the church, closed a day which will be long remembered by all who attended. The choir, Mrs. Grover C. Carpenter's playing of the organ and the solo and duet work of George Kelly, George Mitchell and Norman Turner featured the musical program.

The following was the program of the day:

Bible School 9:30
S. M. Crouch, superintendent.
Opening song.
Prayer.
Reading of Lesson.
Song.
Ten minutes for reports.
Chemically Illustrated Address—Geo. L. Snively.
Invitation hymn.
Secretary's report.
Adjournment of Bible school for dedication.
Overflow program for children at Y. M. C. A.
Dedicatory Services 10:30 a. m.
Organ voluntary.
Hymn 239, "Holy, Holy, Holy."
Invocation.

Hymn No. 246, "O Could I Speak."
Scripture reading by the dedicatory.
Anthem, "Nature's Anthem of Praise"—Sullivan.
Sermon, "Fundamentals of Our Faith"—Geo. L. Snively.
Invitation hymn No. 126.
Dedication hymn.
Benediction.

Basket dinner in basement at noon.

Union Memorial Services 2:30 p. m.
Organ voluntary.
Hymn No. 139, "Love Divine."
Prayer.
Scripture lesson, Heb. 11:17-31.
Communion hymn No. 234.
Lord's Supper.
Anthem, "The Good Shepherd"—Barth.
Congratulatory and Memorial Addresses.
Hymn No. 206, "Blest Be the Tie."
Benediction.

Evening Services 7:30 O'Clock
Voluntary, Violin Solo, Elmus Speelman.
Hymn No. 165, "Day is Dying in the West."
Prayer.
Anthem, "Holy Father Cheer Our Way"—Huhn.

Scripture reading by dedicatory.
Sermon, "Immortality"—Geo. L. Snively.
Invitation Hymn No. 87, "Softly and Tenderly."
Presentation of Keys—Dr. Joseph Wenger, chairman of building committee.
Acceptance of Keys—C. G. Weaver, chairman of board of trustees.
Dedication Vows, led by Pastor, senior trustee and elder; response by the congregation.
Benediction.



The New Vine Street Church Of Christ Which Was Formally And Appropriately Dedicated Sunday

The Dedication Vows

Taken By The Congregation Of The Vine Street Church Of Christ And Led By The Pastor, Senior Trustee And Elder.

1. We set apart this house to the worship of the true and living God and to the services of Jesus Christ our Lord. We devote it to the preaching of the grace of God for the conversion of sinners, and to the education of Christians in the knowledge of spiritual truth; in all the activities of Christian life.
2. Here shall the incense of prayer and praise ascend to God. Here shall the ordinances of the Lord's house be sacredly observed. Here shall the word of God which liveth and abideth forever be sounded out for the salvation of the perishing, and shine as a perpetual light to guide God's pilgrims through the night time to the dawn of everlasting glory.
3. Here may children of sin and sorrow find refuge from despair and ruin, and Christians a harbor to which they can resort when the tempest is high.
4. Here in the hearts of humble worshipers may the Holy Spirit find a temple, and the doctrine of God's word be distilled upon waiting and thirsty spirits as the rain upon mown grass and as showers that water the earth, so that righteousness may flourish and holiness abound.
5. May no discordant word of strife ever be heard within these walls, no unholy spirit of pride or worldliness find entrance here; but may the faith out of which all goodness springs, the hope which purifies and comforts the sorrowing heart, and love which honors God, blesses man, and binds Christians in blessed fellowship, ever inspire and sway the hearts of those who worship here.
6. May these earthly courts be as the holy place of the Temple, separated only by a veil from the holiest of all, in which the royal priests in the house of God may trim the golden lamp and eat of the bread of life, and burn incense at the golden altar. And may God graciously accept this offering of a house in His name; an offering made by grateful hearts and willing hands, and bless every heart that shares in this gift.
7. May multitudes here be born to God, so when all these here today shall have gone to their eternal home, others will take up the services and repeat from generation to generation the old story of the Cross and the songs of Zion, and the prayers of the saints, until Jesus comes, and His redeemed are gathered home. We give thanks to God that His people have been able to offer willingly of this sort. We invoke His blessings on the work of their hands. And we commit to His care and keeping all the interests connected with this religious enterprise.
8. "May the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us. And establish Thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it."
9. Let this house be a home for the stranger, a place of welcome and comfort to the poor, a consolation for the distressed and a place of salvation for the sinner. Let it be a place for the guidance of youth, for the consolation of old age, for the good of men and the glory of God.

To each worshiper may the Father say at last:
10. "Thy work is well done;
Thy race is well run;
Thy crown well won."—AMEN.

LAST WORD IN MODERNITY

New Church Leaves No Room For Improvement

SEATING CAPACITY IS 1,500

Accomplished By Cleverly Constructed Mechanical Partitions—A Description Of The Beautiful House of God

SEATING CAPACITY OF NEW CHURCH

The following is a summary of the seating capacity of the church:	
Auditorium	450
Main Sunday School	175
Primary Rooms	150
Choir	40
Class Rooms	135
Balcony	250
Balcony Rooms	200
Total	1,400
This can be brought up to 1,500 by use of additional chairs for which there is space.	

The new church is the last word in modernity, even to the slightest detail. Its exterior dimensions are 76 by 123 feet. A handsome pressed brick has been utilized in the construction of all outside masonry, while solid stone surmounts the windows and the doorways. These latter are a slight Gothic variation with a stone tracery of the early English period of architecture. The roof is of a gray slate. The interior walls and ceilings have been frescoed, while oak and southern pine with an oil finish have been used, making the wood-work extremely attractive. Lensed art glass appears in all windows. In the smaller, this is of a formal design, while the larger betake more of the religious character of the structure.

The big feature of the first floor plan is the utilization of all possible space in case it is necessary to seat a monster congregation. It will be noted from the good arrangement of this floor that the church, Sunday school assembly and class room are all separate unto themselves. However, by an ingenious arrangement of mechanically-operated partitions, the entire first floor can be converted into one single room. These lifting partitions make this possible. In addressing an ordinary-sized congregation, the pastor stands in the back-center of the room with the partitions down. If there is a crowd of unusual size, such as Sunday's gathering, and it becomes necessary to open up all partitions, he moves around to the right and again occupies a central position, where it is possible for him to be seen and heard from any place, either in the first floor or balcony.

On the first floor, the auditorium measures 56 by 36 feet and has a seating capacity of 450 people. The floor is bowed so that there is no need for straining of necks. The members of the choir, together with the organist, occupy an allotted space, roomy and commanding a view of the congregation. The main Sunday school room will accommodate 175, the primary room 150, the choir 40 and the class rooms 135. In addition to these, there are, on the first floor, the baptistry and robing rooms. There is an immense advantage in the arrangement of the Sunday school and class rooms.

The balcony floor contains the church balcony with a seating capacity of 250. Seats here are as desirable as those down-stairs. Eight class rooms in this section of the building will accommodate 250 more people. Thus, by extra chairs, over 1,500 people can be seated in good sight and hearing of the speaker. Accordingly, the Vine Street Church of Christ represents the largest auditorium in the city of Mt. Vernon and in this respect approaches some of the most commodious churches and halls in Columbus.

The basement has been built purposely high and has been provided with excellent illumination. In this, there is a large dining-room, an entertainment room, kitchen, ladies' parlor, toilet rooms and boiler rooms. These rooms are so constructed that they can be easily converted so as to be

used for other purposes than those mentioned.

The building throughout is heated by means of hot water, while a perfect system of ventilation, suitable for all seasons of the year, has been worked out. Gas and electricity are in all parts of the building.

THE SLOAN WINDOW
There is only one single fixture of the old church incorporated in the new and that is the memorial window to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sloan, founders of the church in this city. This window, which is darker in tone than the others, has been placed in the northwest corner of the church auditorium.

BRIEF HISTORY

Of Church Of Christ In The Community Of Mt. Vernon

The old church, which was torn down when the present structure was started, was built about sixty years ago in the infancy of churches in this community. The earliest records of the meetings for the purpose of organizing the church in Mt. Vernon are still preserved and date back to January 31, 1850, when there was a gathering in the court house of those professing what was then known as the Disciple faith.

The leader of this band of pioneers was one Robert Sloan. He was a teacher and proprietor of a private school in the city. It was largely through his individual energies that the church was founded in this community. Its rapid growth and present large membership bespeak the success of his early efforts.

The old church, with frequent repairs, served as a fairly suitable place of worship until the last few years, when it was seen that repairs more extensive than ever contemplated must be made or a new structure raised. These considerations were taken under advisement by members of the church.

On Sunday, February 21, 1915, it was unanimously decided by an overflow congregation that a new church, to cost in the neighborhood of \$30,000, should be constructed. It was announced at this time that \$15,000 in cash of this amount had been already subscribed.

The preliminary labor in raising money covered a period of nearly two years. In this, Rev. J. A. Long was particularly active, in conjunction with the building committee. Rev. Long's tireless efforts have won him an everlasting spot of warmth in the hearts of all members of his congregation.

CORNERSTONE LAID
With Ceremonies Appropriate To The Occasion On July 4, 1915

The cornerstone of the church was laid on the Fourth of July, 1915, in the presence of a large crowd of interested spectators and with fitting ceremonies.

Rev. W. R. Walker of Canton was the speaker of the day and his eloquent, rapid-fire utterances are still cherished by those who attended the proceedings that day.

An interesting participant in the ceremonies was Rev. L. G. Walker of Centerville, father of the speaker of the day. This minister of the gospel led in prayers and pronounced the benediction. A highly esteemed worker in the church, it was a delight for him to hear of his son's masterful discourse, as well as for the audience who carefully watched both.

COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS

It was the committees on ways and means that labored so long and diligently for the new church and there were no happier people at the dedication Sunday than those who have devoted their time, energy and thought to this splendid work.

The committees were as follows:
Building—Dr. Joseph Wenger, chairman, E. R. Bennett, W. M. Earlywine, G. E. Henwood and T. J. Morford.
Finance—Rev. J. A. Long, chairman, C. M. Barber, J. R. Clutter, secretary, S. M. Green, G. W. McNabb, treasurer, Ellis Veatch, C. G. Weaver.

Assistants—Mrs. Ira Atwood, Mrs. S. M. Green, Mrs. A. B. Williams, Miss Laura Veatch, F. A. Coile, C. W. McKee, P. A. Berry, J. B. Sellers, William Welsh, J. A. Schaeffer, Erret Wenger, collector.
The architect of the building was A. A. Honeywell of Kokomo, Ind., while the builder was Walter M. Earlywine of Mt. Vernon.

COUNTY FAIR

WILL BE HELD AT HIAWATHA PARK — EDUCATIONAL CONTESTS WILL BE FEATURE THIS YEAR.

The Knox county fair will again be held at Lake Hiawatha park this year. H. C. Gates, secretary of the Knox County Agricultural society closed a deal Saturday morning with Dr. J. A. Root, the new owner of the park, which gives the society the privilege to hold the fair at the park this year.

Mr. Gates stated Saturday that the prospects for the Knox county fair this year were brighter than ever before. It had been planned to hold a stock-judging contest at the fair this year, but this plan had to be abandoned because of the fact that the stock-judging clubs which were required to be established in the counties where these contests are held had not been formed.

However, it is planned to use the money that was available for this contest in connection with the educational department and offer more prizes. Mr. Gates is already making arrangements to have this done. "The best ever this year" was his prediction Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bebout and Miss Gladys Mercer of Gambler have returned from spending the winter at Phoenix, Ariz. On their return trip, Mrs. Bebout and Miss Mercer stopped off in Johnston for a short visit with relatives.

"It's Good"

says Mrs. Ada Boyer, of Versailles, Mo., in writing her praise of Theodor's Black-Draught. She further says: "We have been constant users of Theodor's Black-Draught for 22 years, and have raised seven children with it. We gave it to them at teething, and it relieved spasms."

Have also found

THEODOR'S BLACK-DRAUGHT

to correct all stomach troubles, and for bad colds and fever, it always worked a cure. My married daughter is using it with good results, with her little baby."

Purely vegetable, containing no harmful mineral ingredients Theodor's Black-Draught has become the standard household remedy. It should be in your home. Get a package today. EB2

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OLD HOME

A Double Assurance

When you invest your savings in the "Old Home" you have a double assurance of safety.

First, we lend your money on first mortgage security only, and the property we have mortgaged to us is today worth in the aggregate nearly three times the total amount of our loans.

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